

1st March 1927]

A.—(a) There is one Public Works subdivision in the South Kanara district called the Northern subdivision with headquarters at Mangalore, and another subdivision in the Malabar district called the Southern subdivision with headquarters at Calicut.

(b) & (c) The Government understand that the Executive Engineer, West Coast division, has proposed the transfer of the headquarters of the Northern subdivision to Tellicherry mainly on the ground that the majority of works are in the North Malabar district while in the South Kanara district there is very little work except in Mangalore and that in consequence large expenditure on travelling allowance, much inconvenience and waste of time are caused by the headquarters being at Mangalore. The Superintending Engineer has asked the Executive Engineer to bring forward the proposal after the question of forming a third subdivision which is under consideration has been settled.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ May I ask how it happens that there are so few public works in South Kanara while all the works are concentrated in Malabar thereby requiring two divisions ? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ I thought the hon. Member wanted to know the number of divisions and whether there was any proposal to transfer the headquarters of one of them from Mangalore to South Kanara. But now my hon. Friend wants some other information. The proposal for transfer is perhaps due to the paucity of works, I can't say.”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Sir, our district is neglected in such a manner that there are not a sufficient number of public works and they are going to remove the headquarters . . . .”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The question why South Kanara is made to starve in the matter of public works does not arise out of this question.”

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Civil Justice

#### *Munsif's Court for Anantapur town.*

130 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the High Court of Judicature at Madras recommended a Munsif's Court for Anantapur town ; and

(b) whether any orders have been passed thereon by the Government ?

A.—(a) & (b) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

#### *Sub-Court at Cuddapah.*

131 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) for what period was the present Sub-Court at Cuddapah established



[1st March 1927]

(b) whether there is any requisition from the High Court of Madras for continuing it and, if so, for what period;

(c) whether a provision was made in the last budget to continue it till the end of March; and

(d) whether the hon. Member will be pleased to continue it till the end of August 1927?

A.—(a) The Court was established in January 1926. Its retention has been sanctioned up to the commencement of the summer recess for 1927.

(b) & (d) No proposals have been received from the High Court on the subject.

(c) Provision has been made in the budget for the continuance of the Court throughout the current financial year.

### Elections

#### *Alleged interference of municipal servants in the elections in Tiruvannamalai.*

132 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member, the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman, Municipal Council, Tiruvannamalai, and the Vice-President, Taluk Board, Tiruvannamalai, issued printed appeals to the public and voters of North Arcot to vote for certain persons out of those who stood as candidates for election to the rural non-Muhammadan constituency in North Arcot district during the last election;

(b) whether such appeals were regularly 'served' on all voters in the municipal area of Tiruvannamalai, by the municipal servants;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to enquire into the matter;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Vice-President, Tiruvannamalai Taluk Board, is also a village maniyagar; and

(e) whether this maniyagar was exempted from the general rule that Government servants should not take sides with or on behalf of any particular candidate in the elections?

A.—(a) (b) & (d) The Government have no information.

(c) Yes.

(e) Village officers are not whole-time Government servants for the purpose of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules.

#### *Rearrangement of polling stations in Anantapur.*

133 Q.—MR. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations were made to the Collector of Anantapur to rearrange the polling stations for the elections to the Legislatures;

(b) whether they were all rejected; and

(c) whether the Government propose to send for the papers and look into the matter and arrange better facilities for voters in future?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) The Government will look into the matter.



1st March 1927]

### Irrigation

*Contributions from ryots for irrigation works in Tanjore district.*

134 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the resolution of the Tanjore Irrigation Advisory Board of the Cauvery Delta, dated 18th September 1926, and published in the 'Hindu' of the 21st September 1926, requesting the Government to undertake all works necessary for the irrigation of wet lands without asking for contribution from the ryots unless such work be entirely intended for the benefit of any particular ryot;

(b) if so, whether the principle of this resolution has been accepted by the Government; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) The Government have now perused the resolution in question.

(b) & (c) Generally, all works which are considered necessary for the irrigation of lands in the delta are carried out by the department. The criterion adopted with regard to the levy of contributions from ryots is whether the proposed work is necessary from the point of view of Government as representing the general taxpayer, or whether it is one that will benefit only particular individuals.

*Repairs to the irrigation channel of Sirunamalli village.*

135 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an estimate for repairing the irrigation channel of Sirunamalli village of Arkonam taluk, North Arcot district, was prepared some years back;

(b) whether it is a fact that it has not yet been sanctioned; and

(c) whether the hon. Member will be pleased to enquire into the same and cause repairs to be executed at an early date?

A.—The Government have no information but will ask the Chief Engineer to look into the matter.

*Estimate for the Girisola channel.*

136 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when an estimate was prepared for the Girisola channel in the Goomsur division (Ganjam district);

(b) the date on which Government sanctioned the estimate;

(c) the money spent in constructing the work up to the end of December 1926; and

(d) when Government propose to complete the work?

A.—(a) An estimate for the channel was finally submitted to Government in May 1926.

(b) In June 1926.

(c) Nil.

(d) According to the present arrangements, the work is proposed to be taken up in 1928-29.



[1st March 1927]

*Widening of the bunds of minor channels in Trichinopoly district.*

137 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a proposal to widen the bunds of the minor channels in the Trichinopoly district under the control of the Public Works Department so as to allow motor traffic;

(b) whether representations have been received from the ryots objecting to the proposal; and

(c) whether any, and, if so, what action has been taken by the Government?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

*Repairs to the Elandavathalai channel.*

138 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Elandavathalai channel and its korambu were spoilt by the floods of 1924;

(b) whether they still continue to be in the same condition;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to repair them; and

(d) if not, why not?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b), (c) & (d) In place of the north branch channel which was completely washed away and of the south branch channel which was partly washed away, a new common channel as far as the Murungapettai breach and the north branch through the sanded area has been excavated. An estimate for the construction of a new combined head for the Pudevathalai and Elandavathalai channels is under preparation with the Superintending Engineer, Trichinopoly Circle, who has been asked to expedite it.

*Action taken on the report of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee.*

139 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what action has been taken on the report of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee; and

(b) whether the report and the conclusions of the Government thereon will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to G.O. No. 1973 I., dated the 16th December 1926, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.



1st March 1927]

### Legislative Council

#### *Representation to the Andhra University on the Legislative Council.*

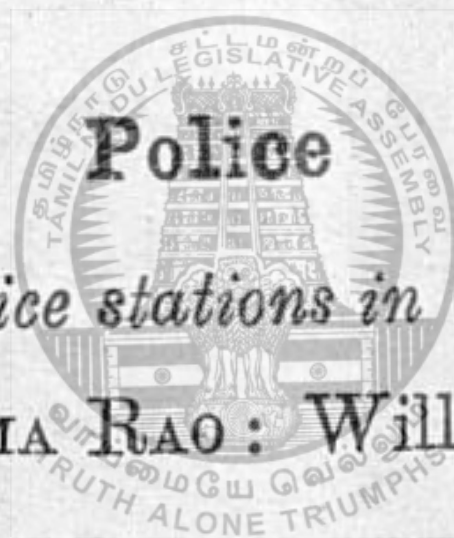
140 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have promised, in their Memorandum, dated 10th September 1926, that His Excellency the Governor will consider the question of according representation to the Andhra University on the Legislative Council by means of nomination when the new Council is constituted, on the Registrar's proposal to constitute the said University into a separate constituency for electing a member to the Legislative Council; and

(b) whether the Government propose to accord representation to the Andhra University now on the Legislative Council as per the said promise?

A.—(a) It was stated that the question of according representation to the University on the Legislative Council by nomination would receive the attention of His Excellency the Governor.

(b) Nominations are made by His Excellency the Governor.



#### *Restoration of police stations in Cuddapah district.*

141 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many police stations were abolished in Cuddapah district during the last retrenchment;

(b) whether the abolition was on the ground that the citizens have begun to lead a peaceful life;

(c) whether there was any decrease in crime in the localities where such police stations have been abolished; and

(d) whether the hon. Member will consider the desirability of restoring these police stations?

A.—(a) Four.

(b) & (c) The reasons for the abolition were that investigation work was light in those stations, the number of crimes reported annually being small.

(d) The reallocation of police stations was recently sanctioned by Government as a measure of retrenchment, after a careful consideration of proposals worked out by a special officer and examined by the Inspector-General of Police. An alteration in the allocation of one police station in a district would generally upset the whole scheme for the district. The Government cannot therefore reconsider the arrangements in particular localities save in exceptional circumstances.



[1st March 1927]

**Assignment of Lands***Assignment of disafforested lands in Cheyyar taluk.*

142 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that two large blocks of disafforested land in Sholavaram and Nedungal reserves in Cheyyar taluk in North Arcot district are available for assignment;

(b) whether any portion thereof has been or is proposed to be set apart for assignment to landless caste Hindu ryots; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) The Sholavaram reserve, the Sholavaram extension reserve, and the Nedungal reserve have been disforested, the two former in 1919 and the last in 1924. The Government are not aware of the area, if any, assigned so far.

(b) & (c) The Sholavaram lands were set apart for assignment to distinguished soldiers, recruits and members of the depressed classes. The Government are not aware of any proposal to reserve land for assignment to caste Hindu ryots.

*Assignment of lands to depressed classes in Nellore district.*

143 Q.—Mr. G. PREMAYYA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state how many acres of land were already granted and how many are proposed to be granted to the depressed classes in Nellore district?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the figures contained in statement VIII annexed to the Administration Report of the Labour Department for 1925-26 which has been placed on the Editors' Table. These are the latest figures available.

*Assignment of lands to Mr. J. C. Aranha.*

144 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to the answer to my question No. 2435 of 1st September 1926, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what orders have been passed on the petitions of Mr. J. C. Aranha on behalf of his son Mr. T. M. Aranha for grant of lands on account of military services; and

(b) what rules have been made to remove all doubts as to the bar of limitation by time and character of military services rendered for title to grant of lands?

A.—(a) The Government found that the applicant's claim to be treated as a combatant could not be accepted and that while he had been applying for lands the assignment of which was objectionable he did not take advantage of a reasonable offer of land in Ullal village. The Government therefore declined to interfere on his behalf.



1st March 1927]

- (b) Orders have been issued by the Government to the effect that if a non-combatant had applied for land before 14th April 1924, he should when making a further application be considered eligible for the concessions for which he was eligible before 14th April 1924 except in cases in which the land at first applied for was not available for assignment and the fresh application was made after great delay and subsequent to 14th April 1924.

### Constitution of districts, divisions and taluks

*Location of the Divisional office at Gannavaram.*

145 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government intend to change the name of Nuzvid Revenue Division in Kistna district into Gannavaram Revenue Division; and

(b) whether the Government intend to locate the Divisional office at Gannavaram, but not at Nuzvid in case it is shifted from Bezvada?

A.—(a) There is no such proposal before the Government.

(b) There is no such proposal.

### District Collectors

*Personal Assistants to District Collectors.*

146 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any personal assistants attached to District Collectors;

(b) if so, how many; and

(c) whether there is any intention of abolishing these offices altogether from the next year.

A.—There are no personal assistants attached to District Collectors.

### Land Revenue

*Alleged dismissal of employees in the Revenue Department.*

147 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have issued any orders that in the Revenue Department clerks and other departmental employees may be suspended on mere suspicion and without proof of any charge of misconduct;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Treasury Deputy Collector of Cuddalore first suspended and then dismissed one Syed Ahmed, an attendant in the Account Section of the Collectorate on mere suspicion without satisfactory evidence;

(c) whether it is a fact that the dismissed attendant appealed to the District Collector against the action of the Treasury Deputy Collector and that the attendant was eventually restored to his office; and

(d) what steps are being taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of similar cases in future?



[1st March 1927]

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to paragraph 6 of the instructions in Board's Standing Order No. 133.

(b), (c) & (d) The Government have no information concerning the case in question. They do not propose to take any action as it would appear from the question itself that the Collector has dealt with the matter.

*Grievances of ryots in Anchetti village.*

148 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the proceedings of the Anchetti Village Panchayat, Hosur taluk, Salem district, dated 21st November 1926, regarding the grievances of the ryots of the said village; and

(b) what steps the Government have already taken or intend to take by way of relieving the distress of the ryots in the said Anchetti village?

A.—(a) The Government have received a copy of a proceedings dated 21st November 1926 passed by the Panchayat in question.

(b) The copy of the proceedings has been transferred to the Board of Revenue for disposal.

*Remission of taxes in North Arcot district.*

149 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the district of North Arcot, owing to failure of rains this year, there will be practically no harvest in most taluks and as a consequence the district is threatened with famine; and

(b) whether any instructions have been issued to the District Collector to grant liberal remissions and to revenue officers to avoid stringent measures in the collection of tax where they arise?

A.—(a) No. Dry crops have been very fair and only wet crops have failed in parts.

(b) Government have issued instructions to Collectors not to be overstrict this year in the exercise of the discretion given to them in determining what is total loss and not to collect amounts which are likely to be remitted.

*Principles underlying grant of remissions in collection of kists.*

150 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what are the principles underlying the grant of remissions in the collection of kists;

(b) whether it is a fact that a produce of twenty measures of paddy per acre will disentitle the ryot from seeking remission according to the system now prevailing;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, whether reaping the harvest itself in such cases will not cost more than twenty measures of paddy per acre and whether it is a fact that the ryot, in such cases, will get no produce at all from his lands; and



1st March 1927]

(d) whether the Government propose to issue a Government Order instructing Revenue authorities to take a liberal view of remission applications this year?

A.—(a) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to the Board's Standing Orders Nos. 13 and 14 which contain the rules regulating the grant of remissions of land revenue.

(b) & (c) The rules do not specify any particular outturn as making the ryot ineligible for remission. The rates of assessment having been calculated on the hypotheses that they will be paid in all years good or bad, provision is made for remission in the case of wet lands only in the case of total loss and in the case of dry lands only as a measure of relieving distress over a wide area. Collectors have however been given some latitude in interpreting the term 'total loss'—vide Board's Standing Order No. 13, paragraph 5.

(d) The Government have issued instructions to Collectors not to be overstrict this year in the exercise of the discretion given to them in determining what is total loss and not to collect amounts which are likely to be remitted.

*Alleged collection of fees for subdivision of lands.*

151 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 2 is collected from every owner of a field when he applies for subdivision of the same;

(b) when was that introduced;

(c) under whose authority;

(d) whether it is a fact that Re. 1 out of it is paid to the karnam as his remuneration and the other rupee is credited to the Government; and

(e) whether such a practice is in vogue throughout the Presidency or is it confined to some districts only; if to some districts only, why that distinction is made?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) In January 1924.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 1649, Revenue, dated 8th November 1923, which was placed on the table of the House on 14th October 1924.

(d) Yes.

(e) It is in vogue throughout the Presidency.

**Minor Irrigation**

*Additional sources of irrigation to lands in Kalavapudi village.*

152 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of land under irrigation prior to 1924 in Kalavapudi village, Bhimavaram taluk, West Godavari district;

(b) the extent of land newly included in the ayacut in the said village and the sum collected as inclusion fees thereon, and when it was collected;



[1st March 1927]

- (c) the extent of land irrigated in the said village in the year 1926 ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that no arrangements were made to supply water to the newly included lands ; and
- (e) whether there are any proposals to provide additional sources of irrigation to the said lands ?

A.—The Government have not the particulars asked for and have called for a report.

*Repairs to the irrigation channel of Rameswaram village.*

153 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the irrigation channel of Ramēswaram village in Proddatur taluk of the Cuddapah district was considered by the authorities as a kudimaramath channel ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that neither the ryots nor the Government repaired the channel for some years past, but the land tax on the lands under the said channel was being collected all these years ;

(c) whether the Collector ordered the ryots to pay one-half of the costs of the repairs and also directed the Municipality of Proddatur to pay some amount for the repairs of the said channel agreeing to give water to their drinking-water tank ; and

(d) whether the Government propose to direct the Collector not to collect anything from the ryots for the repair of the channel as they have paid land tax for the years during which their lands were not cultivated ?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government are not aware of the matters suggested.  
(d) The Government do not propose to move in the matter.

### Public Service

*Provident fund for non-gazetted officers.*

154 Q.—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether Government are considering any proposal to substitute a scheme of provident fund for non-gazetted officers in this Presidency instead of pensionary contribution ?

A.—Further consideration of this question is at present in abeyance.

*Establishment of the Revenue and Labour departments.*

155 Q.—Mr. G. PREMAYYA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state how many graduates and undergraduates from the depressed classes, Muhammadans and Christians of the Northern Circars were entertained in the Revenue and Labour departments from the year 1923 to 1927 ?

A.—The particulars required are not obtainable from any existing reports or returns and would have to be compiled specially at the expense of considerable time and labour which the Government do not feel justified in undertaking.



1st March 1927]

### Public Services Commission

*Public Services Commission for the Madras Presidency.*

156 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether a Public Services Commission for the Madras Presidency will be formed and, if so, what will be its functions?

A.—The question is under the consideration of Government.

### Staff Selection Board

*Annual report of the Staff Selection Board.*

157 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Staff Selection Board submits any annual report to Government of the work done by it; and

(b) if so, whether it can be made available for the use of the Members of the Legislative Council?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The two reports received are placed on the table<sup>a</sup>.

### Survey and Settlement

*Permanent Settlement in Ryotwari villages.*

158 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table all correspondence between the local Government and the Government of India relating to the subject of 'Permanent Settlement in Ryotwari Villages' since December 1921?

A.—The Government regret that they are unable to comply with the request.

*Trichinopoly Town Reclamation Scheme.*

159 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any action has been taken by the Government in respect of the Trichinopoly Town Reclamation Scheme in connexion with the removal of sand from the Murungapettai area; and

(b) if not, why not?

A.—If the hon. Member refers to the scheme for utilizing the sand from the Murungapettai area to raise the level of about 120 acres of land near the St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly, the answer is that since this scheme was propounded it has been proposed to excavate a high level channel which will command about a thousand acres of the Murungapettai sanded area, and that if this channel is constructed there will probably not be enough sand available to raise the level of the land in question. The construction of the high level channel is being investigated by the Chief

<sup>a</sup> Printed as Appendix I on pages 113-120 infra.



[1st March 1927]

Engineer and until the receipt of his report it is not possible to pass orders upon the scheme for raising the level of the land near the St. Joseph's College.

*Resettlement of Anantapur district.*

160 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any final orders have been passed regarding the resettlement of Anantapur district;

(b) whether any opportunity was given to the ryots before final orders were passed; and

(c) whether it is contemplated to hear the ryots before any final orders are passed?

A.—(a) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 2070, Revenue, dated 3rd December 1926, which has been published.

(b) Yes. The scheme report was published on 13th February 1926 in the February issue of the *Anantapur District Gazette*. Three months' time was allowed to the ryots for making representations on the scheme. Memorials from the ryots were received and they were considered before orders were passed.

**Village Establishments**

*Hereditary right of village officers of Tiruppattur taluk.*

161 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the village officers of Tiruppattur taluk, North Arcot district, were deprived of the privilege of hereditary right some years back;

(b) if so, when and under what circumstances;

(c) whether it is a fact that such right exists in the rest of the North Arcot district;

(d) whether the village officers of Tiruppattur taluk have applied to Government for the restoration of this privilege; and

(e) what Government have done in the matter?

A.—(a), (b), (d) & (e) No. The village officers in the proprietary estates in the Tiruppattur taluk have a hereditary right to village offices while the village officers in the ryotwari villages of the taluk (the village of Ohandrapuram being excluded) have not that right. They never had it and they were not deprived of it.

(c) Yes.

*Grant of leave to village munsifs.*

162 Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any rules or regulations concerning the granting of leave of any kind to the village munsifs and headmen;

(b) whether village officers are subject to Civil Service Regulations;

(c) what is the maximum leave of any kind that a village headman can be granted without break under any circumstances;



1st March 1927]

- (b) Orders have been issued by the Government to the effect that if a non-combatant had applied for land before 14th April 1924, he should when making a further application be considered eligible for the concessions for which he was eligible before 14th April 1924 except in cases in which the land at first applied for was not available for assignment and the fresh application was made after great delay and subsequent to 14th April 1924.

### Constitution of districts, divisions and taluks

*Location of the Divisional office at Gannavaram.*

145 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government intend to change the name of Nuzvid Revenue Division in Kistna district into Gannavaram Revenue Division; and

(b) whether the Government intend to locate the Divisional office at Gannavaram, but not at Nuzvid in case it is shifted from Bezvada?

A.—(a) There is no such proposal before the Government.

(b) There is no such proposal.

### District Collectors

*Personal Assistants to District Collectors.*

146 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any personal assistants attached to District Collectors;

(b) if so, how many; and

(c) whether there is any intention of abolishing these offices altogether from the next year.

A.—There are no personal assistants attached to District Collectors.

### Land Revenue

*Alleged dismissal of employees in the Revenue Department.*

147 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have issued any orders that in the Revenue Department clerks and other departmental employees may be suspended on mere suspicion and without proof of any charge of misconduct;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Treasury Deputy Collector of Cuddalore first suspended and then dismissed one Syed Ahmed, an attendant in the Account Section of the Collectorate on mere suspicion without satisfactory evidence;

(c) whether it is a fact that the dismissed attendant appealed to the District Collector against the action of the Treasury Deputy Collector and that the attendant was eventually restored to his office; and

(d) what steps are being taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of similar cases in future?



[1st March 1927]

- (d) what was the actual grazing revenue last year and this year; and  
 (e) what is the reason for fixing the grazing fee at 8 annas when the number of cattle is unrestricted while in other places the rate is only 3 annas?

A.—(a) Panchayats were abolished in case of reserves recommended for retention under the departmental control. The possibility of reviving the forest village system in these reserves is however being considered by the Chief Conservator of Forests.

(b) & (e) Yes. The grazing fee of 8 annas per cow unit represents the minimum grazing fee in respect of forests worked under the Forest Village System. This rate was fixed with the object of limiting the grazing incidence to the possibility of the forest.

(c) No. Permits were issued at the rate of 8 annas per cow unit up to the possibility and wherever there was demand for grazing permits in excess of the possibility—permits were issued at double rates, care being taken by the panchayatdars to distribute all the permits issued at the ordinary rate equitably among the villagers.

(d) The actual grazing revenue was Rs. 10,440-8-0 up to December 1925 and Rs. 10,848-8-0 up to December 1926. The grazing season commences in July and all permits are issued before the end of December.

*Forest cases in Kurnool district.*

166 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of forest cases reported in the Kurnool district during the years 1924-25, 1925-26, and 1926-27 (up to the 31st of December 1926) classified according to the nature of the offence, the amount of compounding fees collected under every such classified head, the amount of fines imposed under every such classified head by courts of law, the number of cases under every such classified head in which imprisonment was imposed by courts of law, and the minimum, the maximum and the aggregate of this form of punishment?

A.—Such information as the Government have is contained in the Administration Reports of the Forest Department of the Madras Presidency. The figures for the period 1st April to 31st December 1926 are not available but will be included in those for the year 1926-27 which will be issued in due course.

*Removal of manure leaves for agricultural purposes.*

167 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been received from Trichinopoly and other districts bringing to the notice of the Government that the Public Works Department are objecting to the removal of manure leaves for bona fide agricultural purposes; and

(b) whether any, and if so, what action has been taken by the Government?



1st March 1927]

A.—(a) & (b) No such representations have been received by Government.

### Labour

#### *Report of the Committee to consider amendments to Madras Planters' Labour Act I of 1903.*

168 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the report of the Committee appointed to consider amendments to the Madras Planters' Labour Act I of 1903 in G.O. Mis. No. 109, dated 12th January 1926, has been received ; and

(b) whether the Committee recorded evidence and carried out investigation on the spot into the conditions prevailing on the estates before arriving at conclusions on the points referred to the Committee ?

A.—(a) The Committee has not submitted any report. The attention of the Member is invited to the answer given to clause (a) of question No. 9 asked at the meeting of the Council of the 24th January 1927.

(b) No.

#### *Working of the Workmen's Compensation Act.*

169 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Government have addressed the Government of India on the working of the Workmen's Compensation Act with special reference to the defects noticed by the Commissioner of Labour in his report of the Labour Department for the year 1925-26, regarding penalty for failure to deposit compensation under section 8 (1) and also failure to send returns under section 16 of the Act ?

A.—Yes.

#### *Payment of wages and system of fines in factories in this Presidency.*

170 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state —

(a) whether opinions were invited from interested persons and organizations in the Presidency on the subject of (1) payment of wages, (2) system of fines prevailing in the factories in this Presidency ;

(b) if so, the names of persons and organizations asked to express opinions ;

(c) whether the Local Government have communicated their views on the subjects ; and

(d) if so, the nature of the proposals of the Government ?

A.—(a) to (d) At the instance of the Government of India, this Government consulted the Commissioner of Labour, the Board of Revenue, the Director of Industries and representatives of employers and employees on the two subjects referred to in the question. The Government have communicated their views to the Government of India on the subject of prompt payment of wages. The other subject is now under the consideration of



[1st March 1927]

Government. The Government do not consider it desirable to disclose the nature of their views which form the subject of correspondence with the Government of India. It is probable that the Government of India will publish the replies received by them on the subject of the prompt payment of wages.

### Weather Reports

#### *Maintenance of weather reports in Ootacamund.*

171 Q.—Mr. J. A. DAVIS : Will the hon. the Member for Finance and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether considering that Ootacamund is an All-India Hill Station and that the cost of maintaining daily weather reports is only about Rs. 200 per annum, the Government will be pleased to reintroduce the maintaining of weather reports in Ootacamund?

A.—The issue of daily weather reports is under the control of the Government of India.

### Education

#### *Criterion determining seniority among officers.*

172 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the criterion which determines seniority among the officers of a service, e.g., Provincial Educational Service, Health Officers, District Board Engineers, etc.?

A.—Officers of the Madras Educational Service and Health Officers take rank according to the dates on which they are substantively appointed to the service. As regards District Board Engineers, the length of service in any grade put in by an officer and his record of work are the factors which ordinarily weigh with Government in determining his seniority.

#### *Appointment of admission committees to colleges in Madras.*

173 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state the circumstances under which admission committees were appointed to the several colleges in the Madras city?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to pages 698 to 701 of the proceedings of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd September 1921 in connexion with Resolution No. 104 moved by M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai Avargal.

#### *Provision of conveyances for Muhammadan Girls Training School at Trichinopoly.*

174 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received any memorial from the Muslims of Trichinopoly requesting for provision of conveyances for the Muhammadan Girls Training School at Trichinopoly; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?



1st March 1927]

- A.—(a) Yes.  
(b) It is under consideration.

*Construction of the Senate House for the Andhra University.*

175 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether plans and estimates for the construction of the Senate House for the Andhra University at Bezwada are ready; and

(b) if so, when the Government propose to commence the construction of the Senate House at Bezwada?

A.—(a) Plans and estimates for the Senate House are under preparation in the Chief Engineer's office.

(b) Detailed proposals from the authorities of the University are awaited.

*Status of Indian Catholic secular clergy and Protestant pastors as secondary grade trained teachers.*

176 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to my question No. 2485 of 9th September 1926 regarding the status of Indian Catholic secular clergy and Protestant pastors as secondary grade trained teachers, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what report has been received by the Government on the subject; and

(b) what orders have been passed?

A.—The Government have obtained a report from the Director of Public Instruction and have authorized him to deal with the case of each teacher on its merits.

*Scheme for adult education by the Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore.*

177 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government, the hon. the Minister for Public Health and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether a scheme for adult education was submitted to the Government by the Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore, asking for aid from Government;

(b) whether the Government while sympathising with the objects of the scheme, have expressed the opinion that the scheme does not contain sufficiently definite proposals or suggestions for action and that it does not come within the purview of the Madras Elementary Education Act and that therefore the District Educational Council cannot be asked to make any grants for the same; and

(c) whether it is proposed to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act with a view to bring adult education schemes within the purview of that Act or whether the Government propose to deal with such schemes under 'Special Education'?



[1st March 1927]

A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

(c) The question will be considered on receipt of the report called for from the Director of Public Instruction.

*Adult education in this Presidency.*

178 Q.—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have invited the opinions of the District Educational Officers and Collectors of districts on the subject of adult education;

(b) whether any reports have been received so far; and

(c) whether they propose to consult public opinion and the opinion of the Council before a definite scheme applicable to the Presidency as a whole is adopted?

A.—(a) The Government have asked the Director of Public Instruction to investigate the extent to which un-official and honorary workers will be forthcoming to undertake the work of adult education and to report whether any form of special aid will be necessary to stimulate such form of social service. District Educational Officers and Collectors are being consulted on the subject by the Director of Public Instruction.

(b) The Director's report is awaited.

(c) The question will be considered after the Director's report is received and examined.

*Adult education schemes by the Devadhar Malabar Reconstruction Trust, etc.*

179 Q.—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to place on the table of the House the adult education schemes submitted by the Devadhar Malabar Reconstruction Trust, Calicut, and the Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore, and the orders of the Government passed thereon?

A.—The schemes submitted by the Devadhar Malabar Reconstruction Trust, Calicut, and by the Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore, and a copy of the orders<sup>a</sup> passed thereon by the Government are placed on the table.

**Local Boards and Municipal Councils**

*Vacancies in the Chingleput District Board.*

180 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how the seats vacated by the following lady members have been filled up:—

(1) Mrs. Kamala Sathianathan on the Chingleput District Board and

(2) Mrs. Anna Thomas on the Tinnevely Municipal Council; and

<sup>a</sup> Printed as Appendix II on pages 120-125 infra.



1st March 1927]

(b) the reasons for replacing lady members by male members?

A.—(a) (1) M.R.Ry. C. Muttayya Mudaliyar Avargal, B.A., was appointed to the Chingleput District Board in the place of Mrs. Kamala Sathianathan.

(2) Mr. W. R. S. Sathianadhan, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Tinnevely, was appointed to the Tinnevely Municipal Council in the place of Mrs. Anna Thomas, L.M.P.

(b) The reasons for the first of the above appointments were stated in the answer to clause (c) of question No. 19, on the 24th January last. The reason for the second appointment was that the presence of the Sub-Collector would, it was considered, materially enhance the capacity of the Council to cope with its arduous duties.

*Amendment of the Madras Local Boards Act and Madras District Municipalities Act.*

181 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the amendment of the Madras Local Boards Act and the Madras District Municipalities Act will be taken up in the near future; and

(b) if so, whether local bodies will be given an opportunity to criticize the provisions of the amending Bill before they are introduced in Council?

A.—(a) The amendment of the Acts is engaging attention.

(b) It will be open to any local body to offer its remarks on the amending Bills after they are published for criticism.

*Revision of the Madras Local Boards Manual and the Municipal Account Code.*

182 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any complaints have been received by Government of the inconvenience caused to local bodies and their members for want of up-to-date copies of the Madras Local Boards Manual and the Municipal Account Code; and

(b) whether action will be taken in the near future to revise these books?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The revision of the Manual and the Code will be taken up after the Bills to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, are passed into law.

*Preparation of voters' lists for elections to Arkonam Union Board.*

183 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Special Officer who has been asked to conduct the elections to the reconstituted union board of Arkonam has allowed the names of several people who are not eligible to be on the voters' lists to be included in the voters' lists;



[1st March 1927]

(b) whether it is a fact that he has attempted to do so in spite of the written protests of several voters ;

(c) whether Government are aware that the quarrels existing among the members of this union board have been 'litigated' in several courts and in the High Court as well ; and

(d) whether Government propose to enquire into the matter and pass early and final orders on the question of voters' lists ?

A.—(a) & (b) It was brought to the notice of the Government that the Special Officer, Arkonam Union, had included in the preliminary electoral roll the names of persons who had not paid their taxes for the year 1925-26 before the 31st March 1926. Under the rules a person who has paid his taxes before the final orders of the revising authority are passed on the electoral roll is entitled to have his name included in the roll, even though the payment is made after the 31st March of the preceding year. The correct procedure was pointed out to the Special Officer and to others who had addressed the Government on the matter.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government will make an enquiry if facts are brought to notice which necessitate such a course.

*Bifurcation of the Kistna District Board.*

184 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state when the present District Board of Kistna will be bifurcated into the District Boards of Kistna and West Godavari ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 125.

*Elected members to taluk boards in West Godavari.*

185 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the President, Kistna District Board, has kept the Taluk Boards of Ellore, Kovur, Narasapur and Tanuku in West Godavari under his jurisdiction running only with three or four members nominated by himself and with temporary presidents nominated out of them by himself without allowing the people to elect the remaining members from February 1926 to February 1927 ; and

(b) when the Government propose to give to the people the right to elect members to all the taluk boards in West Godavari ?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 126.

In consequence of changes in the areas of revenue taluks comprised in the local fund taluks it was necessary to reconstitute the latter and the question of reconstituting them under section 240 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, was under consideration since May 1926. It was not considered desirable to hold elections to them pending such reconstitution.



1st March 1927]

- (b) The taluk boards have been reconstituted with effect from 1st February 1927. The members of the reconstituted taluk boards have been appointed by the Government for a period of one year from 1st February 1927. After the expiry of this period the members of the taluk boards will be elected.

*Enquiry into the affairs of Kistna District Board.*

186 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received copies of resolutions passed by the Local Self-Government Conference, Kistna and West Godavari, held at Palacole, on 11th January 1927 under the presidency of Mr. D. Narayana Raju, M.L.C.;

(b) whether the Government have received copies of a book published by Rai Sahib C. K. Reddi, the leader of the bar in the Kistna district, the President, District Educational Council, and an ex-President, Taluk Board, Bezvada, entitled 'The Raja of Mirjapur—a few of his activities and achievements in the field of Local Self-Government'; and

(c) whether the Government propose to make a special enquiry into the affairs of District Board, Kistna?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

(c) The matter is being examined.

*Alleged complaints against the President, Saidapet Taluk Board.*

187 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary to the Government received a memorandum from Mr. Bhaktavatsalu Mudaliyar alleging that the President of the Saidapet Taluk Board, who was also the Returning Officer for the election was working openly for a candidate in a taluk board election, and requesting the Government to appoint any other impartial officer as the Returning Officer;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government have replied that they cannot interfere in the matter; and

(c) whether the Government have considered the advisability of issuing a Government Order in the matter, providing for the appointment of an impartial officer as Returning Officer, when the president of a taluk board happens to work for a candidate in an election?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

(c) The Government expect the President of the Taluk Board, in his capacity of Returning Officer, to be fair and impartial. Until the contrary is shown to be the case, they see no reason to alter the existing practice.

*Notices of encroachments to house-owners and shop-keepers in Rajampet.*

188 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that just before the last election to the Madras Legislative Council, about 40 notices of encroachments by the people of



[1st March 1927]

Rajampet, Cuddapah district, were given to several owners of houses and shops in that union ;

(b) whether the Union Board President himself is living and keeping a shop in the area where there have been encroachments ;

(c) when the encroachments were made ;

(d) why they were not noticed by the President, Union Board, Rajampet, until the time of elections ; and

(e) how did he come to know of them just before the elections to the Legislative Council ?

A.—The Government have no information.

*Nomination of Mr. B. V. Subba Rao as Chairman of Palacole municipality.*

189 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why the Government renominated Mr. B. V. Subba Rao as the Chairman of Palacole municipality for a second time ;

(b) whether there was in the Municipal Council at the time of his renomination any of the members having equal or superior qualifications to those of Mr. B. V. Subba Rao ; if so, how many, and their qualifications educational or otherwise ; and

(c) what were the special circumstances which weighed with the Government in his renomination ?

A.—(a) & (c) Palacole is a young municipality and the Council had a costly water-supply scheme in contemplation. The Government therefore considered that a Chairman who had proved his competence should be retained at the head of the municipal administration.

(b) The Government are not aware that there were other councillors having qualifications equal or superior to those of M.R.Ry. B. V. Subba Rao. Their information is that no one was so well qualified.

*Representation of Protestant Christians in South Kanara District Board.*

190 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to my question No. 2469 answered on 4th September 1926, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state what orders have been passed on the representation of Protestant Christians in the South Kanara District Board ?

A.—Having regard to the constitution of the Board, the Government found that the need for representation of other communities, who were unrepresented, was greater.

### Agriculture

*Functions, etc., of agricultural demonstrators.*

191 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the functions of agricultural demonstrators ;

(b) the staff employed under each of them and their functions ;



1st March 1927]

(c) how many days in a month they are expected to travel and stay at the headquarters; and

(d) what staff, office accommodation and other facilities there are at the headquarters of each demonstrator for attending to public demands for seeds and manure, for answering queries and for placing the demonstrators and their staff in close touch with enterprising cultivators and agricultural advancement associations?

A.—(a) Their main duties are to get into touch with as many cultivators in their jurisdiction as possible, to study the local agricultural practices and explain and demonstrate to the ryots on their own lands such improvements as may have been decided upon. Their duties also in many cases include the supply of improved implements, seeds and manures from their depots or putting ryots in touch with suppliers of such articles. When demonstration plots are actually laid down, the agricultural demonstrators visit them frequently and instruct the ryots what to do, and they maintain cultivation sheets and at harvest time weigh or measure the crop. They also demonstrate the use of iron ploughs and simple implements like mhote wheels, etc. They distribute literature, attend fairs and festivals and meetings of co-operative societies in their jurisdiction as far as possible and exhibit and give lectures on improvements which can be readily adopted. They are, in short, general advisers to the ryots in all matters with which they can deal.

(b) Either a messenger or a demonstration maistri, or in some cases both, are attached to the agricultural demonstrator to help him with his demonstration work and to distribute seeds and implements stocked for sale and keep correct accounts of these.

(c) No minimum touring period has been fixed. As a rule, an agricultural demonstrator tours for about 20 to 25 days each month.

(d) No other staff beyond that stated in (b) above is provided. Usually there is a depot at his headquarters where seeds, implements, etc., are stocked for sale and, where these depots exist, they also serve the purpose of an office for the agricultural demonstrator.

### Co-operative Societies

*Co-operative societies in North Arcot district.*

192 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state, with reference to his answer to question No. 2236 given on 17th July 1926,—

(a) whether it is not necessary for the Registrar of Co-operative Credit Societies, under rule 3 of the rules framed under the Act, to satisfy himself that a society proposed to be started has reasonable chances of success with reference to the local conditions;

(b) who registered the societies referred to in question No. 2236, especially the special types of societies;



[1st March 1927]

(c) whether it is a fact that in the case of the Gudiyattam Weavers' Society and the Vellore Central Weavers' Depot Society, organization, registration and starting were almost simultaneous ;

(d) whether it is a fact that no proper enquiry was conducted before registering these societies ;

(e) whether it is a fact that a land mortgage bank was started in Ambur in the North Arcot district and that it is not able to do any work ; and

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to enquire into the methods adopted by the present Deputy Registrar, Vellore, in organizing these non-credit and special type societies ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Presumably the then Assistant Registrar.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government have no reason to suppose that no proper enquiry was made.

(e) A land mortgage bank has been started at Ambur. The people in the locality pressed for it and its inception was received with enthusiasm but it did not start work. The Government understand, however, that it is now showing some signs of activity.

(f) In the absence of more specific statements, the Government see no reason to enquire.

*Government aid to Weavers' co-operative societies near Tanur.*

193 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Devadhar Malabar Reconstruction Trust applied to the Co-operative Department to recommend to Government two weavers' co-operative societies conducted near Tanur in Malabar for loans on easy terms ;

(b) whether in that connexion the general question of State loans to Weavers' Societies was raised ; and

(c) whether final orders have been passed by the Government on the subject ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no direct information but the Secretary of the Trust probably did approach the Registrar in the matter. The question of financing these societies is bound up with the general question of reorganization of existing weavers' societies.

(c) Government will consider the matter when the special inspector deputed to reorganize co-operative societies amongst weavers has finished his work.

### Registration

*Appointments in the Registration department.*

194 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) on what grounds it was stated by the late Minister for Education (Sir A. P. Patro) in answer to question No. 706, dated 21st March 1924,



1st March 1927]

that the Indian Christians were excessively represented in the Registration department;

(b) whether, apart from the basis of population according to the calculation in answer to question No. 431, dated 22nd August 1924, Government have taken into consideration the higher literacy and the educational advancement of the Indian Christian community as compared with most other communities;

(c) what is the criterion laid down by Government for selecting candidates for appointment with due regard to the educational and other qualifications as well as numerical proportion of the population of a community; and

(d) whether the orders regarding the direct recruitment of candidates for the upper grades of the Registration department are still in force and, if so, what is the justification for them?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 431 given at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd August 1924.

(b) Yes. As stated in the answer referred to there were in 1924, 35 Indian Christians employed as sub-registrars and probationary sub-registrars while the number admissible in proportion to population would be only 20.

(c) There is no quantitative criterion. The principles laid down in G.O. No. 658, Public, dated the 15th August 1922, are generally followed.

(d) The system of direct recruitment to the upper grade sub-registrars has been temporarily held in abeyance.

### Excise

*Cost of opium supplied by Government to shops and hospitals.*

195 Q.—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what is the value of the opium supplied by the Government to the opium shops in the Presidency of Madras during the period April—December 1926;

(b) what is the value of the opium supplied to the hospitals for medical purposes during the said period;

(c) what is the number of the licensed opium shops in the Tinnevely district; and

(d) whether any restrictions are placed upon the shop licensees as to the total amount of opium which may be sold by them during a particular period of time?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

(c) The number of shops sold for the lease 1926–27 is 11.

(d) No general restrictions have been imposed regarding the total amount of opium which may be sold by licensees during a particular period of time but the Collector may, with the previous approval of the Commissioner of Excise, by notification at the time of auction sales, impose a maximum limit on the quantity to be sold under a licence.



[1st March 1927]

*European liquor shops in prohibited areas.*

196 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to my question No. 2388 of 28th August 1926, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state what European liquor shops are still left in the area in which there is total prohibition of arrack?

A.—Foreign liquor shops are located at Shiyali, Tirutturaipundi, Tenkasi and Devakottai.

**Public Health***Health officers working in municipalities.*

197 Q.—Khan Bahadur S. K. ABDUL RAZACK SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of municipal councils which employ Health Officers; and

(b) whether there are any municipalities in which Government health officers are working independently of the Chairman and if so, have the Government received any reports as to the working of this system?

A.—(a) Twenty-six.

(b) No.

**COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL**

1. With reference to the undertaking given by the hon. the Law Member on 25th January last in the course of the debate on the motion for the adjournment of the business of the House regarding the Cauvery-Mettur Project, the Secretary laid on the table copies of G.O. No. 1974 I.<sup>a</sup> (Public Works and Labour Department—Irrigation), dated 16th December 1926, passing orders on the Chief Engineer's report on the recommendations of the Cauvery Committee.

2. With reference to the Legislative Council Resolution passed at its meeting of the 13th December 1921 and G.O. No. 42,<sup>b</sup> Finance, dated 11th January 1922, the Secretary laid on the table copies of the list of posts on Rs. 500 per mensem and above created during the quarter ending December 1926.

3. The Secretary laid on the table copies<sup>c</sup> of the proceedings of the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth meetings of the Finance Committee for 1926-27 held on the 5th, 6th, 7th, 10th, 11th and 27th January 1927, respectively.

4. The Secretary laid on the table copies<sup>d</sup> of the statement regarding the action taken by Government on resolutions passed in the Council during the last session.

5. The Secretary laid on the table copies of the progress report<sup>e</sup> for the financial year 1925-26 on the Cauvery-Mettur Project.

<sup>a</sup> Placed on the Editors' Table.

<sup>b</sup> Printed as Appendix III on pages 126-128 infra.

<sup>c</sup> Printed separately.

<sup>d</sup> Printed as Appendix IV on page 129 infra.

<sup>e</sup> Printed as Appendix V on pages 130-140 infra.